

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F3/033

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 613 080 A (SONY ELECTRONICS INC) 31 August 1994 (1994-08-31) column 8, line 28 - column 11, line 12; figures 3-11	1-11
X	US 6 125 375 A (ATKINS ET AL) 26 September 2000 (2000-09-26) column 9, line 59 - column 10, line 20; figure 5	1-11
X	US 5 625 782 A (SOUTOME ET AL) 29 April 1997 (1997-04-29) column 4, line 51 - column 4, line 54	1-11
X	US 5 263 134 A (PAAL ET AL) 16 November 1993 (1993-11-16) column 4, line 45 - column 5, line 40; figures 2-6	1-11

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.*** Special categories of cited documents:*****A*** document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance***E*** earlier document but published on or after the international filing date***L*** document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)***O*** document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means***P*** document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed***T*** later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention***X*** document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone***Y*** document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.***&*** document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

5 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

12/04/2005

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